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# INFORMATION REPORT

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Personal Documents of Members of SP:

A boy in SP service is called a "junak." Each junak has a junak identity card which contains his personal data. The identity card of the junak bears a photograph of the junak, or a fingerprint of the

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right index finger. Usually junak identity cards are issued during the group and subsection service, at the latest, however, when the junak is sent to the brigades.

Junak Identification:

The cover of the junak identity card is made of dark green paste-board. A red and white 12 millimeter stripe runs from the upper right-hand corner to the lower left-hand corner of the first outside page. In the middle of this stripe is the emblem of SP: the Polish eagle on a shield with the letters SP; over it the inscription, "Powszechna Organizacja Sluzba Polsce " ( Universal Organization, Service to Poland ); below it, the inscription, "Legitymacja junacka nr...." ( Junak Identification No. ...). On the first inside page of the cover is a quotation of Bierut which says in essence: "Poland will be what you, the youth, make it."

The inside pages are of regular white paper.

On the first page, at the top, there is a place for a photograph, and below it a space for the signature of the owner. Below this is the name of the authority which issued the identification and the effective date of the identification. Below this data, the powiat commander of the SP ( junak identification cards can be issued only by powiat and municipal commanders ) places his signature with an oval seal. The second page gives the personal data of the "junak" and his place of residence. The third page has a place for notations on what group the junak is serving in and to what brigade divisions he was ordered. On the fourth page is noted the completion of the three individual courses or service in the organization. The fifth page notes the completion of training courses such as naval, glider, aviation, motor, etc. The lower part of the page, about one-fourth, is designated for entering the promotions of the junak with the corresponding number of the order, etc. The sixth page has additional space for noting promotions of the junak. The following are the grades of the junak:

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Junak

Senior Junak

Patrol Leader ( Patrolowy )

Senior Patrol Leader ( Starszy Patrolowy )

Group Leader ( Grupowy )

Squad Leader ( Drużynowy ).

The seventh page has a space for entering awards the junak has received. These notations include: the date the award was received, type of award, number of the presentation order, and the action for which the award was given. The eighth page has space for extending the validity of the identity card. On the last page, or the back inside cover, are printed the junak commandments, which in 8 or 10 points speak of work, study, and preparedness for defense of the country. The last, or outside cover, is completely blank.

The junak identity card is the proof by which the junak identifies himself not only to the authorities of the SP, but also to the authorities of Polish administration.

Girls usually do not receive identity cards, except for those who are sent to brigades and for courses. ( In the opinion of the informant, there is a shortage of identity cards, and new ones are not being printed ).

The junak identity card is a valuable document for enrolling in higher schools or in applying for work.

The junak carries his card with him as a proof of his identity. With the conscription of the junak in the army <sup>h</sup>his identity card is taken from him.

After the abolition of the reduced-price theatre tickets on 1 March 1951, holders of the junak identity cards still obtain group reduced-price tickets.

If a "junak" has awards, it is his duty to wear them, <sup>and</sup> when required, not only to show his "junak" identity card but also certificates confirming the awards.

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Up to 1948 junak identity cards were similar to army booklets and were known as junak booklets of the SP. This booklet contained from 20 to 40 pages for various notations. Junak booklets are held by those junaks who served in brigades in 1943 at the latest, or those born from 1928 to 1930.

Documents of the SP Organization:

The Powiat and Municipal National Councils create so-called Komisje Rejestracyjne "Sluzba Polsce" ( Registration Commissions of Service to Poland ) to register 16 year old youths of both sexes.

These commissions are created by the national councils from military offices. They fill out a special registration card for every boy and girl reporting. Special files of those serving in SP are made from these cards. From this time on, every move, temporary or permanent, must be reported to the military office with the proposed destination. The military office must make a report of the departure or arrival of a boy or girl "junak" to the proper Powiat or Municipal Command of the SP. On the basis of the military report, the registration card of the junak is transferred to his new place of residence.

The registration card contains all the information necessary for such institutions as the WKR ( Wojskowe Komendy Rejonowe, Regional Military Command ), the UB ( Urzad Bezpieczenstwa, Security Police ) and the MO ( Milicja Obywatelska, Citizens Militia ).

In February and March of each year the presidiums of the powiat and municipal national councils ( military offices ) <sup>establish</sup> qualifying and registration commissions ~~are established~~ for junaks that have finished their 16th year. Junaks are summoned to powiat towns to appear before the commission by cards with specified dates. They are also supplied with passes for railroad transportation.

Those called before qualification and registration commissions usually are sent to SP brigades by April of that same year. There they receive military training and are also used for various jobs such as,

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the removal of ruins, cleaning ports, building homes and state projects. Besides the physical training, which includes military training, junaks attend political training courses. The Communists place special emphasis on the latter. Service in the brigades lasts 2 months and, the periods are as follows:

Period I . . . . . May to June  
Period II . . . . . July to August  
Period III . . . . . September to October

Division of Work and Training in the Brigades:

Three days of the week are spent in physical labor while the remaining 3 days of the week are devoted to military-political training.

Awards of the SP:

"Junaks" who are outstanding in work or training receive promotions and awards to encourage them and others to further productive work.

Badges are round, with a diameter of about 3 centimeters. They are issued for the following achievements and are divided into three classes: gold, silver and bronze.

- a) For victory in work competition
- b) For public work
- c) For victory in multi-contests
- d) For good marksmanship
- e) Souvenir badge

Copies of the badges were included in special drawings by the informant. Brigades or powiat commands of SP issue special certificates ( on cards of green or rose pasteboard ) authorizing the junak to wear the SP badges.

Brigades are also sent to work for "friendly" countries, as for example, Czechoslovakia, Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, etc., and brigades from those countries come to Poland in exchange.

Certification of the Qualification and Registration Commission:

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Up to 1951 four types of certificates were issued:

white: capable of service in brigades

green: capable of service in brigades with limitations

yellow : years deferment from service

rose : incapable of serving in brigades

Presently, as of 1 February 1951, on the basis of an order of the Chief Command of the SP, the meanings are as follows:

White: Capable of service in the brigades,

Green: Deferment of service in brigades for one year,

Rose: Freed from service in brigades.

Deferment from service in SP brigades for a year is obtained by the physically handicapped. Such deferments are also given to sole supporters of families, those temporarily sick, etc.

Completely freed from service in SP brigades are: volunteer members of ORMO (Ochotnicz Rezerwa Milicji Obywatelskiej, Volunteer Reserve of the Citizens' Militia), all those working in UB, and MO, and also all administrative workers of ZMP and the PZPR.

Communists provide exemptions for their trusted collaborators. A special effort, however, is made to enroll the country youth into the brigades, especially those of the rich peasants, or "kulaks."

Those who have received a release or a deferment from service in brigades nevertheless are not free from service in SP groups.

NOTES ON THE CIVILIAN POPULATION, AND AUXILIARY DOCUMENTS.

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Service Identity Cards:

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The service card of workers in state institutions is an identification of great importance. With this card one can identify himself everywhere.

Service Cards of the SP:

Up to 1950, SP service cards were issued solely by the Chief Command of SP, Personnel Division, in Warsaw. Since September 1950, these service cards are issued by wojewodztwo commands of the SP. The format of the SP service card is about 10 X 14 centimeters ( folded ), black, and without any inscription.



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On the first outside page is inscribed Rzeczpospolita Polska ( Republic of Poland ). Below this is the symbol of the Republic of Poland, an eagle,

On the first inside page is found a space for a photograph, to the right of which is a space for notations since the owner of this card is entitled to a 50 percent reduction on state railroads. Below the photograph is a space for the signature of the card owner, and, below this, a space for extending the validity of the card for another year. It is stamped with the small seal of the SP. At the top of the second, or the right-hand inside page is a space for the extension stamp of the authority issuing the card. Below is the number of the card, first and last name, father's name, the type of service function, place of employment, date of issue, and limit of validity. Under this data is a space for the signature of the issuing clerk and the seal of the division.

The second, or last outside page, is black and has no print.

Workers of the SP organization were listed in their identity cards as, " Worker of a military institution of the Republic of Poland," and since the UB identity cards are the same, SP identity cards were often mistaken for UB cards.

A very strict secret order calls for return of the SP identity cards of workers who have left the service, within 3 days of leaving. This order, however, was not followed very often.

#### Work Registration:

Work registration cards, especially from some state establishment, can serve as a temporary identification and are usually honored.

#### Identity Cards of Trade Unions:

Not everyone belongs to a trade union, since, as has been the case until now, there is no compulsion for membership. As an example, the informant points out that one person in the Lask Powiat Command held the position of political inspector ( politruk ) for over a year and

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did not belong to the trade union, joining shortly before his leave period so that he might receive a paid vacation.

The trade union identity cards for workers of SP have the following title: Związki Zawodowe Pracowników Instytucji Wojskowych Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej Oddział w Łodzi, Zarząd Główny w Warszawie ( Trade Unions of Workers in Military Institutions of the Republic of Poland, Branch in Łódź, Main Administration in Warsaw).

Dues are paid monthly to the "treasurer" of the trade union group in the given institution. A contribution of one percent of the earnings of the worker is made without any additional charges. The identity cards of the trade unions contain a note reading, " in case of a 3-month non-payment of dues, membership is lost in the trade union."

The identity card of the trade unions is a good document, indicating, among other things, loyalty to the present regime.

Various certificates for the completion of courses and schools organized by the PZPR or ZMP are good documents, which open the way to higher positions, etc.

Travel orders are issued workers on official business. The reasons for the journey, the day, and even the hour of arrival and departure must be noted in the travel order, and verified with a signature and seal. The travel order authorizes a 50 percent reduction on the purchase of the ticket, and upon the completion of the journey it authorizes a return of the cost of travel and meals. A travel order holder need not identify himself anywhere, and, in hotels, it is sufficient for registration.

Travel order forms are numbered and come in books of 100. The stubs of the book note to whom the travel order was issued and for what journey.

( Please Note: The informant worked in SP for over 2 years (1949-1951), which makes him thoroughly acquainted with all its problems.)

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